

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Previously presented) A method of dyeing a fabric comprising:
removing folds from the fabric;
spraying a dye on a first side of the fabric to minimize over-spray of said dye; and
exposing the fabric to a migration and fixation process prior to said dye drying on said first side so that said dye migrates from said first side to a second side of the fabric and reacts with and affixes to a component of the fabric.
2. (Original) The method as in claim 1, wherein the fabric is a natural fabric, a synthetic fabric, and any combination thereof.
3. (Original) The method as in claim 1, wherein the fabric is a synthetic fabric having an amine site with which said dye reacts and affixes.
4. (Original) The method as in claim 3, wherein the synthetic fabric is a fabric selected from the group consisting of a polyamide fabric, an elastane fabric, and any combination thereof.
5. (Original) The method as in claim 3, wherein the synthetic fabric is selected from the group consisting of lycra, nylon, spandex, and any combinations thereof.
6. (Original) The method as in claim 1, wherein said reaction and affixation between said dye and said component forms an attachment selected from the group consisting of a covalent bond, an ionic bond, a disbursement into the fiber molecule, and any combinations of the foregoing.
7. (Original) The method as in claim 1, wherein said dye is water soluble.

8. (Original) The method as in claim 1, wherein said migration and fixation process comprises applying steam and heat to the fabric for a desired time period.

9. (Original) The method as in claim 8, wherein said desired time period is about 1 minute to about 7 minutes.

10. (Original) The method as in claim 9, wherein said desired time period is about 3 minutes to about 5 minutes.

11. (Previously presented) The method as in claim 1, wherein the fabric defines a garment selected from the group consisting of a brassiere, a shirt, a pair of pants, a pair of underwear, a pair of panties, a sock, a skirt, a dress, a pair of shorts, a coat, a suit, a scarf, a glove, and a hat.

12. (Previously presented) A method of dyeing a garment made of fabric comprising:

disposing the garment on a carrier so that a first side of the garment faces away from said carrier and a second side faces said carrier;

spraying said first side with a dye so that spraying of said dye on said carrier is minimized; and

steaming and heating the garment prior to said dye drying on said first side so that said dye migrates from said first side to said second side and reacts with and affixes to a component of the fabric.

13. (Original) The method as in claim 12, wherein said carrier shapes the garment to a desired state.

14. (Original) The method as in claim 13, wherein said desired state comprises removing folds and creases in the garment.

15. (Original) The method as in claim 13, wherein the garment is brassiere, a shirt, a pair of pants, a pair of underwear, a pair of panties, a sock, a skirt, a dress, a pair of shorts, a coat, a suit, a scarf, a glove, and a hat.

16. (Original) The method as in claim 12, wherein spraying said first side comprises moving a spray nozzle with respect to said first side.

17. (Original) The method as in claim 12, wherein the fabric is a synthetic fabric having an amine site with which said dye reacts and affixes.

18. (Original) The method as in claim 17, wherein said synthetic fabric is a fabric selected from the group consisting of a polyamide fabric, an elastane fabric, and any combination thereof.

19. (Original) The method as in claim 17, wherein the synthetic fabric is selected from the group consisting of lycra, nylon, spandex, and any combinations thereof.

20. (Original) The method as in claim 12, wherein the fabric is a natural fabric, a synthetic fabric, and any combination thereof.

21. (Original) The method as in claim 12, wherein said dye is water-soluble.

22. (Currently amended) A method of dyeing a garment made of fabric comprising:

disposing the garment on a carrier;

moving a spray nozzle with respect to the garment so that a substantially even coat of a dye is applied to a first side of the garment; and

steaming and heating the garment after said substantially even coat of said dye is applied to said first side but prior to said dye drying on said first side so that said dye migrates from said first side to a second side and reacts with and affixes to a component of the fabric.

23. (Previously presented) The method as in claim 22, further comprising moving said spray nozzle with respect to the garment to only apply said dye to the garment while minimizing over-spray of said dye.

24. (New) The method as in claim 22, further comprising washing the garment while disposed on the carrier to remove to any residual, un-affixed dye from the garment after steaming and heating the garment.

25. (New) The method as in claim 22, wherein steaming and heating the garment ensures substantially uniform distribution of said dye throughout the garment.

26. (New) A method of dyeing a garment comprising:

disposing the garment on a carrier;

spraying a dye on a first side of the garment to minimize over-spray of said dye;

and

exposing the garment to a migration and fixation process prior to said dye drying on said first side but after spraying said dye on said first side to provide a substantially uniform distribution of said dye throughout the garment.

27. (New) The method as in claim 1, wherein said dye has a substantially uniform distribution throughout the fabric.

28. (New) A method of dyeing a garment comprising:
disposing the garment on a carrier;
moving a dye applicator and the garment with respect to one another so that a substantially even coat of a dye is applied to a first side of the garment; and
steaming and heating the garment after applying said substantially even coat of said dye but before drying said dye so that said dye migrates from said first side to a second side and reacts with and affixes to a component of the garment.

29. (New) The method as in claim 28, wherein said dye applicator comprises a nozzle and robot.

30. (New) The method as in claim 28, wherein said dye has a substantially uniform distribution throughout the garment.